



Daily Report

Sub-Saharan Africa

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Congo

Minister Warns Against Illegal Possession of Weapons

AB2309185293 Libreville Africa No. 1 in French 1230 GMT 22 Sep 93

[Text] In Congo, Defense Minister Damase Ngollo has strongly warned those illegally possessing military weapons while the campaign for the second round of the 3 October legislative elections is going on. The minister has issued this warning to ensure the smooth conduct of the elections. Lucien Parfait Nzoungou has the details from Brazzaville:

[Begin Nzoungou recording] All those who will use war weapons during this campaign for the 3 October early legislative elections should consider themselves dead. Ngollo stated this yesterday in his capacity as defense minister and mediator when he met foreign observers and officials of the two major political groups—presidential camp and Democratic Union for Renewal-Congolese Labor Party coalition and affiliated parties. In the same vein, at his 20 September news conference, (Christophe Mokoeke), chairman of the presidential camp, drew everyone's attention to the need to scrupulously respect the Libreville Accord. He also urged the Congolese to go to the polls on 3 October for the success of this second round.

The campaign for these elections continues in an atmosphere of crisis. It seems that the enthusiasm shown by the voters during the previous elections has dwindled, and a high rate of abstention is already expected at the 300 polling stations. [end recording]

The decision to organize fresh elections in the 11 constituencies, where results had been challenged, was made after the Libreville meeting of representatives of the two major political groups, which was initiated by Gabonese leader Omar Bongo.

Let us also recall that the presidential camp and the Union for Democracy and the Republic of Andre Milongo, speaker of the National Assembly, have signed an agreement for mutual support for their candidates in the second round of the 3 October legislative elections.

Zaire

Disagreements Reported at Consultative Talks

AB2309145893 Kinshasa Tele-Zaire Television Network in French 1900 GMT 21 Sep 93

[Text] The presidential group and the Sacred Union of the radical opposition and allied forces are currently

holding political consultative talks. Today's discussions focused on the possibility of separate meetings by the two delegations and the surprise attendance of High Council of the Republic [HCR] Chairman Monsignor Monsengwo-Pasinya at the meeting. The plenary session will probably continue this evening and be marred by some points of disagreement. Oscar Kabamba Kasungwo has the details:

[Kasungwo] A plenary session is currently going on at the People's Palace to examine and adopt the reports submitted by the various commissions. The two delegations are still holding to their respective stands despite various contacts between the leaders. The political forces of the Conclave and the Sacred Union of the radical opposition left the meeting late last night. They resumed the meeting today to reflect on the various points that continue to divide them, such as the report by Commission III relating to the neutrality of state institutions and public services.

The first point of divergence is on whether the name of the leader of the government should be included in the report submitted by Commission III when it is ready to be initialed. This point was raised by the Sacred Union. The second point is on how to examine the [words indistinct] and the restructuring of the HCR, in which the Political Forces of the Conclave would like to be well represented. The Sacred Union also called for the inclusion of National Assembly deputies in the council's membership. The venue of the closing ceremony of the political consultative meeting is also a subject of division among participants.

The HCR chairman, Msgr. Laurent Monsengwo-Pasinya, paid a surprise visit to the People's Palace. He met with the two heads of delegation and their spokesmen at the VIP lounge for more than two hours. No details emerged from that meeting but according to reliable sources, Msgr. Monsengwo-Pasinya is said to have proposed the writing and signing of the draft protocol agreement.

Immediately afterward, we met Mr. Ouedraogo, resident representative of the UN Development Program in Zaire, who had met briefly with Ambassador Lengema-Bilia, spokesman of the Political Forces of the Conclave.

Secret discussions on how to reconcile the two sides continue, and if fruitful, there could be a meeting between Msgr. Monsengwo-Pasinya, UN special envoy Lakhdar Brahimi, and representatives of the two delegations. The threat of the disruption of the current consultations that carried high hopes right from the beginning is looming unless secret diplomatic talks succeed in convincing the two sides and making them remember that national interests supersede individual ones. The eyes of 40 million Zairians are turned toward the People's Palace.

Kenya

President Moi Delivers Speech to Rwandan Delegation

EA2309173693 Nairobi KNA in English 1310 GMT
23 Sep 93

[Speech by President Daniel arap Moi to a visiting Rwandan delegation on 23 September in Nairobi]

[Text] Nairobi, 23 Sep (KNA)—Your Excellency, President Habyarimana Juvenal [as received], distinguished members of the Rwanda delegation, ladies and gentlemen, it is with great honor and pleasure that I welcome you, Mr. President, and the distinguished members of your delegation to Kenya. I thank you most sincerely for having found time to pay this important visit to our country.

Mr. President, I know this is not the first time you are visiting our country, but as I have just said, we attach important significance to this particular visit as it comes at an historic moment in your country, soon after signing of the peace agreement between your government on the one hand and the Rwanda Patriotic Front on the other. The peace agreement is a big step in the search for peace in your beautiful country. I am sure this would not have been achieved without Your Excellency's patience, commitment, patriotism and a sense of duty to your country and your people. We congratulate you for this achievement, Mr. President.

Apart from civil strife arising from various political differences, Africa is also beset with other problems such as poverty, drought, the AIDS menace, vanishing resources and an increasing number of refugees. In addition, Africa continues to be economically marginalised as the available investment capital in the developed countries is diverted elsewhere. Many of our countries have also had to grapple with the adverse effects of aid conditionalities. We hope friendly countries and international organizations which wish to come to Africa's assistance [words indistinct] account the social [word indistinct] in the implementation of such programs.

Ladies and gentlemen, it must be said that the salvation of Africa lies in its economic self-reliance. To achieve this noble objective, we should strengthen not only our bilateral economic cooperation but also regional economic cooperation organizations. We should also move with speed to ensure the realization of the envisaged African economic community.

Mr. President, as I mentioned earlier, the peace agreement your government signed with the Rwandan Patriotic Front gives us inspiration that similar accords would be reached by other parties in other conflict areas in Africa. We keep on hoping that this would be sooner rather than later.

In South Africa, we are at long last can see some light at the end of the tunnel. [sentence as received] It is our sincere hope that all parties involved in the South

African problem should cooperate to eliminate all forms of violence and give peace a chance.

In the Middle East, we are encouraged by the recent momentous events which appear to signal peace in that troubled region. All peace-loving people everywhere support these peace initiatives.

The situation in Somalia continues to be precarious and grave. There are still hundreds of thousands of refugees from Somalia in Kenya. It is my hope that the United Nations will succeed in its efforts to restore peace in Somalia. We in this region will always do what we can to assist the United Nations. And in Sudan, efforts are being made to find lasting peace. In the recent IGADD [Inter-Government Agreement on Drought and Development] meeting I was mandated to coordinate this effort.

Your Excellency, may I once again take this opportunity to wish you and your delegation a happy stay in Kenya.

Distinguished guests, ladies and gentlemen, may I now request you to join me in a toast to the good health of President Habyarimana and to the prosperity of the Republic of Rwanda and her people.

Thank you.

Somalia

USC Urges Aidid To Surrender to UN Forces

EA2309132593 Mogadishu Voice of the Somali
Republic in Somali 1700 GMT 22 Sep 93

[Excerpts] A well-attended celebration marking the second anniversary of the Mogadishu branch of the United Somali Congress [USC] was held in Mogadishu today. The highly organized celebration was attended by many USC leaders and was addressed by USC First Deputy Chairman Omar Hashi Aden. [passage omitted]

Omar Hashi Aden discussed the current situation in the country and the need for everyone to support the UN Operation in Somalia's [UNOSOM] work. The chairman added that division within Somali society is over and Somalis are now on the road to uniting their people and country.

Omar Hashi Aden also discussed the difficult situation the Somali people have come through, which was the work of the man called Aidid. The USC first deputy chairman added that everyone who thought Aidid was going to become something are now aware that he is nothing and that he is on his deathbed. He said for that reason it is imperative for Aidid to hand himself over to the UN forces operating in Somalia. If he continues with his senseless activities, there will be catastrophe and disaster.

Omar Hashi Aden finally called on the Somali people to strive to end the actions of those stifling peace in the country and to fully support UNOSOM's work in the country to achieve progress and prosperity. [passage omitted]

Parliament Passes Transitional Council Bill; CP Walks Out

MB2309144493 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1413 GMT 23 sep 93

[Text] Parliament Sept 23 SAPA—The Conservative Party [CP] walked out of Parliament immediately after the 211-36 vote in favour of the Transitional Executive Council Bill on Thursday afternoon.

Just after the speaker, Mr Eli Louw, had announced the result, CP leader Dr Ferdi Hartzenberg stood up to address him. He said that with the acceptance of the bill, the government had finally put its foot on the path of abdication. He requested that the CP be excused from the rest of the session's proceedings.

The speaker said such action was entirely in Dr Hartzenberg's hands. CP MPs then walked out.

Meyer, CP's Hartzenberg Comment

MB2309203893 Johannesburg SABC TV 1 Network in English 1800 GMT 23 Sep 93

[Text] Parliament has passed the controversial Transitional Executive Council [TEC] Bill. The approval of the legislation has now set the tone for the ANC [African National Congress] to call for the lifting of remaining economic sanctions.

The ANC described the passing of the bill as a major victory for the forces of peace and democracy at the multiparty negotiations and a severe defeat for the spoilers. Carl Roos reports that although the Conservative Party [CP] and the Inkatha Freedom Party opposed the bill, surprises were limited to one incident.

[Begin recording] [Roos] While politicians and journalists expected further CP-inspired incidents after yesterday's dramatic events in Parliament, the party participated in the vote, holding back its trump card. The vote was unanimous for the bill amongst their representatives and the delegates, and the assembly voted 107 in favor and 36 against. The CP then made their final stand on the TEC.

[CP leader Ferdi Hartzenberg, in Afrikaans] By the acceptance of this bill, the legislation has finally and irreversibly placed its feet on the way to abdication, and by way of demonstrating our disapproval for it, we kindly request you to excuse the Conservative Party from the activities here for the rest of the session.

[Roos] After the vote, Constitutional Affairs Minister Roelf Meyer said at a news conference that there could be no doubt that Parliament had dealt properly with the bill. He rejected the CP's arguments and said that the sovereignty of Parliament had not been affected in any way by the acceptance of the bill.

[Meyer] It goes beyond my understanding the fact that an opposition party and party that is always, or has in the past and still is acting against the government and the

National Party, doesn't use this opportunity actually to try and get part of the power that they perceive is being distributed through this bill to other parties as well. [end recording]

Meyer Discusses Bill, Future

MB2409074093 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1826 GMT 23 Sep 93

[By political correspondent Pierre Claassen]

[Text] Cape Town September 23 SAPA—Nobody could have a legitimate cause to call for civil war or to mobilise support around Parliament's passing of the TEC [Transitional Executive Council] Bill, Constitutional Development Minister Roelf Meyer said on Thursday.

He spoke to the media minutes after the Transitional Executive Council Bill was approved by big majorities by all three houses of Parliament. He was relieved that the bill had been adopted by Parliament and was looking ahead at the completion of the negotiation process which sought the conclusion of agreements preparing for the transition and providing the (constitutional) transition itself.

"The next weeks are important and demanding," Mr Meyer said. "They demand from us to negotiate with our co-participants at the World Trade Centre and with those not present, such as the IFP [Inkatha Freedom Party] and AVU [Afrikaner National Union]. "We are going ahead to negotiate on a full time basis to achieve the widest possible agreement on the content of the (new transitional) constitution."

One of the government's objectives was to obtain the maximum devolution of power to regional and local government—particularly to give regions strong autonomy and original powers.

"The contents of this point in particular will be clarified in coming weeks."

Other objectives included obtaining a constitutional state and protecting vested interests as well as securing wide participation of political parties in the envisaged government of national unity.

If Afrikaners felt they were not being accommodated, their desire for self determination could be addressed in a federal context, but not on the basis of discrimination or denial of equal rights.

Mr Meyer said General Constand Viljoen of the AVF [Afrikaner Volks Front] was in ongoing bilateral negotiations with the government and the ANC [African National Congress] on the content of the constitution.

The AVF's desires were being noted and negotiating parties were trying, through their collective efforts to ensure that all constitutional needs and desires were met.

"We want to give them no legitimate reason to oppose undemocratically what has been arrived at through the negotiation process."

Dealing with the Conservative Party's [CP] walk-out in Parliament and calls of "traitor" levelled at him, he said the claim that Parliament's sovereignty had been undermined by the TEC Bill was simply not true. "It would have been ridiculous for the government not to have checked whether the bill affected Parliament's sovereignty. Our legal advice was—absolutely not. "The CP's chief indictment against me is therefore without foundation."

Over two days 83 MP's had spoken on the bill. "No-one can therefore say Parliament rubber-stamped the negotiating process. Everybody had opportunity to evaluate its contents and the 107-36 vote tells the whole story."

What went beyond his understanding was the opposition's failure to grasp the opportunity presented by the bill to spread or grab some of the power the bill was distributing. "Crucially important is the question as to whether the CP supports the objective of the bill which is the clear and elevated goal of securing a peaceful, fair and reasonable election. If they do not support that goal, they should say so," Mr Meyer said.

At another media conference CP leader Dr Ferdi Hartzenberg threatened to create alternative government structures to represent the Afrikaner people and to run referendum in selected for people areas to express their will on the TEC.

"But we request the government to fulfil its promise that if there is a significant change (to its mandate on the constitution) that there will be a referendum.

"As a result of the fact that the state president has breached his promise (to hold a referendum) we must now take alternative steps..."

Civil war?

"We are a not a violent nation," Dr Hartzenberg answered. "We will follow the peaceful route as far as possible but we reserve the right to fight for our freedom, if necessary."

If the TEC was implemented as an interim government, the CP would create alternative structures. If it was not, there may yet be another session of parliament next year and the CP would not need to implement its alternative strategy.

Afrikaner National Front, CP React

MB2409081593 Johannesburg Radio South Africa Network in English 0500 GMT 24 Sep 93

[Excerpts] The ANC [African National Congress] has welcomed the approval of the Transitional Executive Council [TEC] bill and said it would ensure that the government would no longer act as player and referee in the transitional process. [passage omitted]

The Afrikaner Volksfront [Afrikaner National Front—AVF] said it regretted the approval of the bill and would lead to more violence. The organization said it would have to look into ways of ensuring people's security in the troubled period that lay ahead.

The Conservative Party [CP] says it has established beyond doubt that its parliamentary caucus meetings are being monitored by the government. The party chief whip, Frank le Roux, said the party's suspicions had been confirmed when after a discussion about a fictitious protest to be held inside and outside Parliament, the number of policemen around Parliament was trebled. The cordon around Parliament was reinforced about 2 o'clock [1200 GMT] yesterday afternoon and police dogs, armored vehicles and weapons were seen everywhere. Mr. le Roux said that according to his information, the police had received their instructions about 1.30 P.M. [1130 GMT], and that police officials had informed CP MP's that right-wingers could cause trouble.

A Ministry of Law and Order spokesman said in reaction that the ministry denied in the strongest possible terms any claims that the police were involved in spying on legal political activities. The spokesman said the additional security measures at Parliament should be seen in the light of the actions of right-wingers at the World Trade Center and the stated intention of right-wingers to begin militant and disruptive actions. Against this background it was natural that the police would take precautions against such actions.

Buthelezi Rejects Rule Over Zulus

MB2409095293 Johannesburg SAPA in English 0918 GMT 24 Sep 93

[By Craig Doonan]

[text] Mtunzini, Natal North Coast Sept 24 SAPA—Inkatha leader Mangosuthu Buthelezi said on Friday patriotic Zulus cannot allow the Transitional Executive Council [TEC] to take over the running of kwaZulu, and Zulus must be prepared to fight against this. Speaking at Ensingweni, near Mtunzini on the North Coast, Mr Buthelezi said: "If we allow the TEC to take over the running of kwaZulu then we are saying it is okay to allow foreigners to rule over us. This no patriotic Zulu can ever allow".

"We must be prepared to fight for our freedom and the right to rule over ourselves. As a proud nation we cannot allow anyone other than ourselves to rule over us." Mr Buthelezi said that without this there would be no peace and prosperity for Zulus or for South Africa.

Mr Buthelezi said the TEC would not include the kwaZulu government nor the Inkatha Freedom Party [IFP] because they had not been part of the multiparty decision-making process. He compared this with the British invasion of Zululand in the 1800s.

"We must never let kwaZulu be invaded again."

He said kwaZulu was not a creation of apartheid nor was it like the other self-governing territories because it existed long before whites arrived in South Africa. It became a sovereign kingdom in the 19th Century. "No-one should ever underestimate our determination to rule over ourselves. No-one should ever underestimate our resolve to remain free from domination."

Zulus were facing a crisis and the enemies of the Zulu nation were preparing to disband kwaZulu and place it under central government rule. "We must stand together if we are to deal with this crisis. We must listen to our king when he tells us he wants a federation for our country. We must defend his wishes."

King: 'Malicious Force' Threatens Zulus

MB2409112193 Johannesburg SAPA in English 0957 GMT 24 Sep 93

[By Craig Doonan]

[Text] Mtunzini, Natal North Coast Sept 24 SAPA—The Zulu nation had to unite to resist attempts to dethrone their king and "wipe Zulus off the face of the earth", according to reigning monarch Goodwill Zwelithini. Speaking on Friday during Shaka Day celebrations at Ensingweni, on the Natal north coast, King Zwelithini said there was a malicious force threatening to dethrone him and dismantle the kwaZulu government.

He said attacks on Zulus, the kwaZulu government and members of the Inkatha Freedom Party were strategically orchestrated to "wipe us off the face of the earth". "They are mounted to destroy the power of our unity to destroy our will to resist."

He said Zulu unity had to be defended as it had never been under such threat since the 1879 conquest of the Zulus by the British. The king said Zulus had to become warriors for peace and "employ the power that there is in Zulu unity to conquer violence and evil". Zulus had to speak, act and live for peace and democracy.

ANC Welcomes 'Major Victory'

MB2309174893 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1636 GMT 23 Sep 93

[Text] Johannesburg Sept 23 SAPA—The African National Congress [ANC] has welcomed the passing of the Transitional Executive Council [TEC] Bill as "a major victory for the forces of peace and democracy at multiparty negotiations and a severe defeat for the spoilers". The approval effectively meant the National Party [NP] government could no longer act as "player and referee" in the transition to democracy, the ANC said in a statement.

It said parties opposing the TEC unwittingly encouraged NP retention of power with serious consequences that could delay black liberation. "The passage of the TEC

Bill must contribute to the levelling of the playing field, the creation of a climate for free political activity and ensuring that the first democratic elections on April 27, 1994 are free and fair. We expect that the terms of this law will be vigorously enforced without fear or favour and applied in every part of the country."

The ANC said it was imperative that the majority of South Africans worked tirelessly to ensure that the TEC did not become "another white elephant, but executes its mandate as designed by the multiparty negotiations forum".

Commonwealth's Anyaoku Comments

MB2409100993 Johannesburg SABC TV 1 Network in English 0500 GMT 24 Sep 93

[Text] Commonwealth Secretary General Chief Emeka Anyaoku said the passing of the Transitional Executive Council [TEC] Bill would speed up the process of lifting sanctions against the country. He said it cleared the way for Commonwealth governments to hasten the process of lifting sanctions which were imposed in 1986. He added that he was involved in urgent consultations with other senior officials from the 40-nation Commonwealth and would make an announcement today.

Government To Apply for Court Order Against Lebowa

MB2409100293 Johannesburg SAPA in English 0954 GMT 24 Sep 93

[Text] Parliament Sept 24 SAPA—The government was going to apply for a Supreme Court order against the Lebowa government to overcome any difficulties SA officials might have in moving into Lebowa, the minister of land and regional affairs, Mr Andre Fourie, said on Friday.

The state law advisor was preparing documents which were expected to be handed to the court on Friday, he said during his reply to the second reading debate on the Self-Governing Territories' Constitution Amendment Bill.

The South African Government had tried to get the co-operation of Lebowa Chief Minister Mr Nelson Ramodike and his cabinet, but they had thrown up repeated stumbling blocks.

Regional Minister on Lebowa Government Irregularities

MB2409104793 Johannesburg SAPA in English 0940 GMT 24 Sep 93

[Text] Parliament September 24 SAPA—Irregularities in the Lebowa government could cost the South African taxpayers hundreds of millions of rand a year if they were not stopped, the minister of regional affairs, Mr Andre Fourie, said on Friday. He was introducing the Self Governing Territories Constitution Amendment

Bill, which he said set up a mechanism that would prevent the administration of a self-governing territory collapsing.

The bill had been introduced with "the utmost caution", but the government had a responsibility to ensure effective and efficient government.

The Lebowa Legislative Assembly failed to pass a budget for the 1993/94 financial year within the prescribed period, and there had consequently been no authorisation for Lebowa to spend anything after September 1.

In addition, Lebowa's financial management had deteriorated so badly that intervention by the South African Government had become inevitable. This was confirmed by:

- a request from Lebowa for additional funds even before its Legislative Assembly had approved its budget;
- a cash flow problem which caused Lebowa to exceed its overdraft facility by some R[and]60 million;
- an official report, confirmed by the auditor general, which pointed to maladministration and mismanagement and abnormal salary increases and promotions with backdated payments.

Mr Fourie said he had taken over the territory's financial administration on September 1.

Without this intervention, the chances were that come November/December, Lebowa would have exhausted its total budget with the risk that payment of salaries, pensions and services would have been jeopardised.

However, the Lebowa government had given very little, if any, co-operation to a South African Government team sent to stabilise the situation. "The Lebowa cabinet, on the contrary, reconfirmed previous decisions which led to irregular promotions of, and backdated payments for, Lebowa officials....

"These irregular promotions can cost the taxpayer hundreds of millions of rand a year if they are not stopped. This does not even include the additional funds which will be necessary for pension contributions and yearly bonuses."

The South African team had discovered that 192 senior administrative clerks in the Lebowa Department of Justice had been promoted to senior administrative officers and their salaries increased from R24,721 to R49,668 a year. In addition, each of them received R73,778 in back payment.

This sort of promotion and back payments were not limited to the Department of Justice and clerks, but were made in all departments and in all job categories.

"Therefore it is in the interest of not only the South African taxpayer, but also of every resident of Lebowa that this situation be stabilised."

Mr Fourie said the bill laid down that the state president or a designated minister could take over entire executive control of a homeland administration if the president believed this was necessary to prevent that administration collapsing, or that the administration was spending money in an unreasonable way.

The government still believed existing government institutions such as the cabinet and legislative assemblies of self-governing territories should remain until a new regional dispensation had been negotiated. The bill was clear: if a territory exercised proper and responsible control, there was no reason for South Africa to use the new powers against it.

"But this is proof that if a crisis situation does arise, the government will not hesitate to act strongly to protect the interests of the South African taxpayer."

South African Press Review for 24 Sep

MB2409160693

[Editorial Report]

THE STAR

Legislation Targeted at Homelands Welcome—The legislation tabled in Parliament giving the president powers to effectively take over the administration of an ailing homeland "is a long overdue attempt to resolve an utterly unacceptable situation," points out a page 12 editorial in Johannesburg THE STAR in English on 24 September. "Significantly, it is not only the errant Lebowa administration that is targeted. The Government should not hesitate to use its power against other wayward and spendthrift administrations also. Too often it has gone soft on the illegitimate offspring of apartheid. We trust that it will now use the full might of this legislation to call a speedy halt to a situation which the country simply cannot afford, in financial or any other terms."

BUSINESS DAY

ANC "Undermines" Own Case on Cellular Phones—The government's decision to award the two cellular phone licenses "has brought the expected angry response from the ANC [African National Congress] and its alliance partners," says a page 10 editorial in Johannesburg BUSINESS DAY in English on 24 September. "They are upset mainly because government has acted unilaterally, but there are also indications that the alliance would have liked American involvement in the scheme, perhaps in partnership with the ANC-linked Thebe Investment Corporation. Ironically, this was prevented by sanctions. Some of the ANC criticisms are valid and must be addressed, but it undermines its case with talk of nationalisation and other threats."

SOWETAN

Government Intervention in Lebowa Welcome—Johannesburg SOWETAN in English on 24 September

in a page 10 editorial finds it "right that the South African Government should intervene" in the administration of Lebowa, "as long as this signals the beginning of a cleansing of corrupt administrations from Pretoria to Bisho." "It is all very well for the South African Government to fight its battles with [Lebowa Chief Minister] Ramodike, but to hold civil servants and the homeland's residents to ransom is unfair, to say the least." "Ordinary people such as pensioners and patients are suffering as a result of the closure of the homeland's money purse."

WEEKLY MAIL & GUARDIAN

ANC Internal Code of Conduct—A page 16 editorial in Johannesburg WEEKLY MAIL & GUARDIAN in English for 24-30 September comments on the ANC adoption of a "far-reaching code of conduct that sets strict internal controls on the acceptance of directorships and gifts by its office-bearers and candidates. It forces an openness and accountability that could be a model for a new spirit of honesty in our political life." The only way to prevent corruption is to "shine the torch of public scrutiny into the dark corners of our public life. The ANC has lit that torch. Let's encourage them to carry it forward."

THE CITIZEN

U.S. Support of Yeltsin Criticized—"By rushing to Mr Yeltsin's support, President Clinton and other Western leaders are rejecting the very democratic principles which they profess to follow," states the Johannesburg THE CITIZEN in English on 23 September in a page 6 editorial. "If President Clinton shows such a shallow disregard of constitutional rule," continues the editorial, "what right has he to preach to us about what we should or should not do here? For years the United States has been interfering in our domestic affairs, firing off condemnations of the government and generally siding with the 'liberation' forces. We have been harangued about our undemocratic ways, we have been told what we must do to mend them, and we have been subjected to cruel sanctions, including the denial of International Monetary Fund loans because the Americans have refused to endorse them. Yet in Russia Mr Yeltsin has acted like a tinpot dictator and President

Clinton gives him his blessing." In closing the editorial states that judging from the way Clinton has handled the Russian crisis, "Heaven help us if we allow the United States to determine our future."

BEELD

ANC Answer on COSATU Candidates Lacking—"The explanation by ANC Secretary General Cyril Ramaphosa on how the organization is going to accommodate its 20 COSATU [Congress of South African Trade Unions] candidates in the general election may allay certain fears, but it does not answer all the questions," says an editorial on page 8 of the Johannesburg BEELD in Afrikaans on 22 September. "Mr. Ramaphosa's categorical statement that the ANC is no longer a socialist movement, and his assurance that the COSATU candidates will not be allowed to promote a socialist agenda within the ANC, is to be welcomed. The question, however, is whether the ANC will be able to keep the socialists in its midst in check when it had such a tough time with the racist slogans of its youth leader, Mr. Peter Mokaba." All of this raises the concern about the dog and the tail—"Who is going to be wagging whom after the elections? It is necessary for the ANC to provide answers to all these questions before the election."

Extraordinary Steps Needed Against Violence—"BEELD wishes today to call, in all seriousness, for extraordinary measures to be taken against the violence in the PWV [Pretoria, Witwatersrand, Vereeniging] region and in Natal," declares a page 8 editorial in the 23 September issue of BEELD. "We believe that the sinister forces committing this naked terrorism are beginning to succeed in their goal. According to the classical terrorist doctrine they flay ordinary, innocent people mentally and physically to the point where these people would do anything for peace—even yield to the demands of those committing the violence." "This is our plea, says BEELD: "An initiative must be launched whereby all political role players get together and jointly decide on bold, coordinated action against the violence." "Only that kind of bold, united action against violence could still stand between us and devastating anarchy."

Angola**'Text' of Government's Peace Proposal Reported**

MB2309193193 Luanda Radio Nacional Network in Portuguese 1902 GMT 23 Sep 93

[Text] The Government of Angola has just presented its peace plan, which proposes five principles for the resolution of the crisis that has beset the country since elections were held in September of last year. The following is the text of the document:

Aspirations for stability and peace in the Republic of Angola are immediate imperatives demanded by all Angolan people. The Bicesse Peace Accord was signed within that context. Both the Angolan people and the international community were involved, resulting in general, free, and fair elections and, subsequently, the introduction of a new constitutional legal framework, which has been recognized and accepted by all governments in the United Nations. Given that the National Union for the Total Independence of Angola [UNITA] leadership has systematically adopted dishonest stands that defy the Angolan people's wishes and the international community's demands as conveyed in the relevant UN Security Council resolutions on Angola—notably Resolutions 804/93, 811/93, 823/93, 834/93, and 851/93—the Angolan Government hereby expresses its belief that the following principles must form the foundation for resolving the postelectoral crisis caused by UNITA:

1. UNITA's military forces must withdraw from areas occupied illegally after the 29-30 September 1992 general elections, followed by a cease-fire in terms of the relevant UN Security Council resolutions;
2. To carry out humanitarian aid operations and urgently evacuate wounded and sick people, interested parties, and foreigners after the declarations of the cease-fire;
3. Strict and unequivocal acceptance of the validity of the Bicesse Accord and of the outcome of the September 1992 elections;
4. Respect for the legislation drawn up by the sovereign organs which were constituted as a result of the electoral outcome;
5. To reiterate the Angolan Government's willingness to resume peace talks as soon as conditions have been met.

[Issued] Luanda, 22 September 1993

UN Representative Receives Plan

MB2309204193 Luanda TPA Television Network in Portuguese 1930 GMT 23 Sep 93

[Text] UN Special Representative Alioune Blondin Beye held his second meeting this afternoon with Deputy Foreign Affairs Minister Joao Miranda. The first meeting occurred yesterday. Beye went to the Foreign Ministry to receive the government's official response

concerning the latest proposals presented by the National Union for the Total Independence of Angola [UNITA]. Blondin Beye got what he wanted. He said he had received a satisfactory reply.

[Begin recording] [Beye, in French fading into Portuguese translation] It was in fact UNITA's latest proposals that we discussed with the deputy minister. I also had the opportunity to talk with the deputy minister concerning the UN Security Council's latest resolutions.

[Unidentified correspondent] Did you receive the government's reply to the UNITA proposal?

[Beye] Exactly. I received it.

[Correspondent] Could you give some details?

[Beye] That is not for me to do.

[Correspondent] Are you satisfied with the contacts you have been having?

[Beye] I am very happy.

[Correspondent] Mr. Beye: When will you go to Huambo?

[Beye] Not now.

[Correspondent] There are 48 hours until the expiration of the UN deadline. What are your comments concerning the evolution of the Angolan peace process?

[Beye] There are still 48 hours to go. We must wait.

[Correspondent] Can the Angolan people expect something important and pleasant to occur within the next 48 hours?

[Beye] It is rather difficult to expect the Angolan problem to be settled within 48 hours. The Angolan people have had to wait for 17 years.

[Correspondent] Mr. Beye: What do you think of the unilateral cease-fire announced by UNITA, which should have been in force as of 20 September?

[Beye] I had a meeting with Jonas Savimbi, and I asked him to make a declaration to that end, but a declaration is not enough. There is also the need to act. Thus, UNITA has proclaimed a unilateral cease-fire....

[Correspondent, interrupting] But is that cease-fire being observed?

[Beye] I cannot say anything about that cease-fire, because the United Nations itself does not have the means to verify the implementation of that cease-fire. Thus, I cannot guarantee that that cease-fire is being adhered to. I cannot comment on that.

[Correspondent] So, UNITA is not complying with UN-set deadline of 10 days?

[Beye] That is not for me to say. It is up to the UN Security Council to decide on that matter. [end recording]

Continued Fighting Reported in Cuito

MB2309200493 Luanda Radio Nacional Network in Portuguese 1900 GMT 23 Sep 93

[Text] Once again, Savimbi has failed to keep his promises. The war continues in Cuito. More than 10 people were killed today in the wake of a National Union for the Total Independence of Angola [UNITA] ambush. The men of the Black Cockerel continue to kill, wound, and abduct civilians. The commander of the government forces in Cuito has reported that yet another two UNITA battalions have come from Huambo and are now closing in on the city. Those battalions have joined the three from Cuando Cubango Province. As Abel Abraao, our correspondent in the city of Cuito, reports, the situation is getting worse:

Reports we have received over the last few hours say UNITA continues to violate its own unilateral cease-fire. This morning, the men of the Black Cockerel attacked civilians seeking food along the road between Cuito and Cunje. The UNITA soldiers killed more than 10 civilians and wounded others. UNITA snipers have also resumed shooting at peaceful civilians venturing to cross streets in search of food. Only today, the UNITA snipers killed a policeman and wounded three people, including two women. Also over the past few hours, the men of Black Cockerel [word indistinct] a number of people who tried to go to their homes. Furthermore, there has been no news so far about Don Pedro Luis Antonio, head of the Catholic church for Bie Province, who was abducted by UNITA on 20 September, along with missionaries and believers seeking refuge in the bishop's house. Indications are that the political and military situation could deteriorate over the next few hours. The UNITA rebels have already brought more than three battalions from Huambo and Cuando Cubango. They continue to stalk Cuito's outlying areas and to carry out reconnaissance missions. UNITA has not given up on its idea to attack and take Cuito.

Brigadier (Cadmiel Mucumbe), Angolan Armed Forces commander for Cuito, has had this to say:

[Begin (Mucumbe) recording] The situation in the city of Cuito is worrisome at this stage because UNITA has intensified its operations over the last 24 hours. First, it is moving closer to our positions. It wants to occupy [word indistinct] homes. Second, UNITA continues to carry out ambushes along the Cuito-Cunje road, where they killed and wounded civilians [words indistinct] the snipers are trying to establish control over the streets [words indistinct]. Furthermore, we have received information that UNITA has deployed yet another two battalions, which have come in from Huambo, after the three which had come from Cuando Cubango Province. Those battalions have the specific mission of taking Cuito. In view of that information and the operations

UNITA has carried out over the last 24 hours, we have concluded there is no cease-fire at all. UNITA must not be allowed to mislead the Angolan people and the international community by claiming that [words indistinct] the cease-fire, because the situation on the ground is so complex. Given the preparations and movements by the UNITA forces, the situation could deteriorate over the next few hours. [end recording]

Chief of Staff Comments on UNITA Operations

MB2309202693 Luanda Radio Nacional Network in Portuguese 1900 GMT 23 Sep 93

[Text] In Malange today, General Joao de Matos, Angolan Armed Forces [FAA] chief of General Staff, reported that Jonas Savimbi's men are carrying out operations in various parts of the country, and he added the National Union for the Total Independence of Angola [UNITA] is continuing offensive operations on the ground. Gen. Joao de Matos described as a political ploy the UNITA maneuvers concerning its much-vaunted unilateral cease-fire. UNITA will not stop the war, and the FAA forces are on alert to [words indistinct] any attack by the men of the Black Cockerel.

[Begin De Matos recording] UNITA continues to carry out a military offensive on the ground. It continues to launch offensive operations in just about every part of Angolan territory. We have not noticed any stop in [words indistinct] on the part of UNITA, and we believe all UNITA has been saying does not amount to anything but another UNITA attempt to mislead the Angolan and international communities, and consequently, to try to create a situation which [words indistinct] implementation of sanctions by the UN Security Council. We are quite certain that UNITA will continue its ongoing propaganda efforts to avoid sanctions. Regardless of whether there are sanctions, UNITA will then proceed to carry out offensive operations throughout Angolan territory. It will then abandon its words of peace and return to its warmongering speeches. [end recording]

That was Gen. Joao de Matos speaking during a five-hour visit to Malange today. Asked about the political and military situation on the northeastern military front, Gen. Joao de Matos described it as positive.

Malawi

Government To Encourage Trade Union Activities

EA2209163593 Blantyre Malawi Broadcasting Corporation Network in English 1030 GMT 22 Sep 93

[Text] The Ministry of Labor has announced that the government is adopting and reinforcing a policy of negotiation and collective bargaining as a legitimate method of determining wages and conditions of employment. In a statement issued in Lilongwe, the ministry said the policy will also aim at settling disputes between employers and workers. It said among the principles to be encouraged in the implementation of the policy will

be the right by workers and employers to freely organize themselves into trade unions and employers' associations. Both parties would also have the right to engage in collective bargaining and the right of access to information for purposes of negotiations.

The statement said, on its part, the government will provide the necessary legal framework within which the trade unions and employers' associations will operate. The statement added that the policy guidelines are intended to promote long-term harmonious labor relations at work places and at national level.

Mozambique

UN, Government, Renamo Discuss Peace Accord Timetable

MB2309190493 Maputo Radio Mozambique Network in Portuguese 1730 GMT 23 Sep 93

[Text] The government and the Mozambique National Resistance [Renamo] have not yet reached an accord on the new timetable for the implementation of the General Peace Accord based on the last UN Security Council resolution on Mozambique. The two sides will once again meet next week, and there is the possibility that the new timetable will be adopted during the meeting by the Supervision and Control Commission [CSC] of the General Peace Accord to be held on 28 September. Yet another meeting was held today by the CSC under the chairmanship of UN Special Representative Aldo Ajello, during which the sides discussed technical issues of the new timetable. Government Minister Armando Guebuza, Renamo Official Raul Domingos, and Aldo Ajello believe the new timetable should be a realistic one that can be fulfilled.

Namibia

Veii Elected New SWANU President; Party Against Merger

MB2309133293 Windhoek DIE REPUBLIKEIN in Afrikaans 20 Sep 93 p 8

[Text] Former SWANU [South-West Africa National Union] president, Mr. Gerson Hitjevi Veii, said on Friday that Advocate Vekuii Rukoro has resigned as member of the National Assembly and as the president of SWANU but that he has been asked by head of state, Mr. Sam Nujoma, to remain in his post as the deputy justice minister for as long as it is in the interest of SWANU and Namibia.

Mr. Veii announced at a media conference on Friday that he has again been elected SWANU president.

Advocate Rukoro resigned last week as SWANU president and Namibia National Front member of the National Assembly for health reasons.

Mr. Veii took over the SWANU leadership from Advocate Fanuel Kozonguizi in the late seventies and was later replaced by Advocate Rukoro. He was again elected president of the party at a recent SWANU congress in Katutura. At his first media conference as president of SWANU on Friday, Mr. Veii said that the special congress of the party had decided that it is not yet time to dissolve the party, because it had not yet fulfilled its main objectives.

For this reason members decided against merging with the UDF [United Democratic Front] and the NPF [National Patriotic Front].

He emphasized: "This does not exclude cooperation with these and other parties in the coming general election."

In conclusion he said that SWANU welcomes the incorporation of Walvis Bay and the off-shore islands into Namibia.

Opposition to Election of Chief Garoeb as Damara King

MB2309135793 Windhoek THE NAMIBIAN in English 20 Sep 93 pp 1, 2

[Report by Jean Sutherland]

[Text] The election of Chief Justus Garoeb as Damara King went ahead at Okombahe over the weekend despite vehement opposition from the Damara Royal House and charges that the move was unconstitutional.

In a press release issued ahead of the election, the Damara Royal House, through representative Immanuel Gaseb, urged Garoeb to hold off and set an appropriate date "in consultation with the Royal House, well in advance of the election date". However, their last-minute plea apparently fell on deaf ears.

In their statement, the Damara Royal House charged that the organisers of the Okombahe election had never consulted them and were guilty of various legal irregularities.

They stated that the election of the Damara king should have been done in terms of Government Notice No 2 of 1987.

According to Gaseb the election date had been set at very short notice and "no respect, whatsoever" was shown towards tradition and the constitution of the Royal bloodline as set out in the Government Notice—that "the Paramount Chief shall preferably be from the Royal bloodline".

Gaseb said that acting Chief Justus Garoeb had been appointed by Paramount Chief Dawid Goreseb in 1976. "He was appointed to act until such time the Damara Royal House came up with a suitable candidate, ready to carry on with the tradition."

Further, the Government Notice laid down that. "The headmen shall assemble within 21 days after the election and recognition or appointment of all headmen in terms of Section 3, at Okombahe to elect, in consultation with the Damara Royal House, the Paramount Chief...." Speaking as a representative of the Royal House, Gaseb said the time was now ripe for the Damara Royal House to appoint somebody from the Royal family "whose name can't be made known at this point...for strategic reasons".

The Damara Royal House stated that it had not been unwilling to participate in the appointment of a Paramount Chief for the Damaras.

However, it had not seen any reason for the holding of an election "but would rather like to see the restoration of the Royal House and the Damara tradition".

At the time of going to press The Namibian was unable to establish whether the Damara Royal House will mount a legal challenge to Garoeb's appointment.

Zambia

Government Appoints Commission To Review Constitution

MB2309191393 Gaborone Radio Botswana Network in English 1610 GMT 23 Sep 93

[Text] The Zambian Government has appointed a commission to review the Constitution, with a view to making it more democratic. Legal Affairs Minister Mr. Ludwig Sondashi told a news conference in Lusaka today that the government was dissatisfied with the constitution inherited from the previous administration of former President Kenneth Kaunda, who was defeated in the 1991 elections.

Mr. Sondashi said the commission was expected to review presidential powers which are deemed excessive, and the relationship between various arms of government. He said there are too many faults in the Constitution, citing a clause which says the executive will be accountable to parliament, without saying how this will be effected.

The commission starts sitting in November, and is expected to complete its work in six months. Mr. Sondashi said they would like the new constitution to be enacted before the end of next year.

Angolan Envoy Denies Presence of Troops in Country

MB2309192593 Lusaka Zambia National Broadcasting Corporation Network in English 1800 GMT 23 Sep 93

[Text] Angolan Ambassador to Zambia Pedro Fernando Mavunda has denied reports concerning the presence of

Angolan armed forces in Zambia. Reacting to Minister of Defense Ben Mwila's statement that UNITA [National Union for the Total Independence of Angola] issued threats to attack Zambia because (?it had learned) that there were Angolan armed forces in the country, Mavunda said that [words indistinct] of furthering the conflict.

Mavunda said that UNITA had an obligation to apologize because it was responsible for (?making threats) against Zambia's [word indistinct].

Zimbabwe

Bread Price Increase Provokes Riots in Harare

MB2309155593 London BBC World Service in English 1515 GMT 23 Sep 93

[From the "Focus on Africa" program]

[Text] Riots broke out in the suburbs of Harare late yesterday, and they have been continuing today. Zimbabweans came out on to the streets to vent their anger at a large increase in bread prices. Zimbabwe dropped its subsidies on flour in line with World Bank-IMF Structural Adjustment Program recommendations for Zimbabwe in April, but up until now dramatic increases in bread prices had not been experienced. From Harare, Rachel Rawlings reports:

Riot Police were patrolling the streets of some of Harare's high-density suburbs this week after bread delivery vans were stoned and shops attacked [words indistinct] by angry groups of protesters. Some shoppers who bought bread were assaulted when they resisted having it confiscated by demonstrators, while in (Mathluku), an angry crowd of women and children blocked a road to prevent delivery by a bakery van and [words indistinct] to [word indistinct] shoppers to share out among the young children.

Last night, demonstrators pushed their way into shops in (Clairview) suburb and (?looted) stocks of bread and flour. Later, groups of youths stoned passing vehicles and riot police were called in to restore order. The police spokesman said anyone caught looting bread or resorting to violence while demonstrating will be dealt with accordingly.

One of Harare's biggest bakeries, Lobo, stopped production completely yesterday and only delivered to high-density suburbs when invited to do so. Lobo's [word indistinct] had been stoned by angry demonstrators early yesterday morning. The company's managing director, John Swann, said delivering by bakeries was being coordinated with the police, who tell them when it is safe to deliver.

Cape Verde

RSA's De Klerk Talks With President During Stopover

MB2309181693 Johannesburg Channel Africa Radio in English 1600 GMT 23 Sep 93

[Text] The South African president, Mr. F. W. de Klerk, has held talks in Praia with Cape Verde President Antonio Mascarenhas Monteiro that were mainly devoted to the lifting of sanctions against South Africa. Mr. De Klerk visited Cape Verde on his way to the United States, where he is to attend a session of the General Assembly of the United Nations on South Africa and give the closing address at this year's World Economic Development Congress.

Liberia

Five Killed in Air Attack; ECOMOG Spokesman Comments

AB2309223693 Paris AFP in English 2147 GMT 23 Sep 93

[Text] Monrovia, 23 Sep (AFP)—Five people were killed and 48 wounded in an air attack Thursday [23 September] by two unidentified airplanes on the town of Vahun, a UN High Commission for Refugees (UNHCR) official said in Liberia. UNHCR leader in Monrovia Augustine Mahega said four refugees from Sierra Leone and one Liberian died in the attack, adding that majority of the wounded were refugees from Sierra Leone.

Earlier reports from relief agencies said at least 10 people had died in a bombardment on the town 190 kilometres (about 120 miles) northwest of the Liberian capital Monrovia. Two unidentified aircraft attacked the town at 10:00 a.m. (1000 GMT) and the UNHCR building was hit by four bullets, although there were no reports of any wounded, Mahega said.

The United Nations sent a plane to the area to evacuate the wounded and informed the Nigerian-led Economic Community of West African States Cease-Fire Monitoring Group (ECOMOG) about the incident. ECOMOG spokesman Emmanuel Olabiyi has already denied that its planes were involved in the attack, which is the worst since the start of a ceasefire on August 1.

Thousands of people displaced by the country's civil war are housed in refugee centres in Vahun, about 10 kilometres (six miles) from the border with Sierra Leone.

It is estimated that some 140,000 Liberians and 60,000 Sierra Leone refugees have sought shelter in the area, trying either to escape fighting between the country's rival factions the National Patriotic Front of Liberia (NPFL) and the United Liberation Movement (ULIMO), or the rebellion in Sierra Leone.

On Thursday the UN special envoy to Liberia Trevor Gordon-Somers appealed to the rival factions to lay

down their arms in "a voluntary disarmament" without waiting for the "arrival of the additional troops envisaged in the Cotonou accord". The accord signed on July 25 between the warring sides set out a timetable for the disarmament of both sides under the guidance of ECOMOG and the UN which was meant to begin towards the end of August.

ULIMO had violated an internationally mediated ceasefire which took effect on August 1, the NPFL charged. But Gordon-Somers said that so far only 28 UN observers had arrived in the country, and ECOMOG reinforcements were still awaited. The UN Security Council on Wednesday agreed to set up an observation mission to Liberia of about 300 military observers.

On Monday Charles Taylor's NPFL, the country's main armed faction, accused ULIMO of attacking its positions at Vahun in the northwestern Lofa country and breaking the ceasefire.

Liberia has been in the grip of civil war since December 1989 when the NPFL launched an insurrection. Nigerian-led West African peacekeeping forces intervened in August 1990.

Nigeria

Abiola Tells Supporters of Intention To Return 24 Sep

AB2309122093 Paris AFP in English 1025 GMT 23 Sep 93

[Excerpts] Lagos, 23 Sep (AFP)—Moshood Abiola, the unofficial winner of Nigeria's annulled presidential elections in June, has pledged to return "in peace" in a letter to his compatriots published in the press here Thursday [23 September]. "After 43 days abroad, I intend, insha'Allah (God willing), to arrive back in Lagos on Friday September 24, 1993," Abiola's letter said. "I return in peace." [passage omitted]

"I appeal to all those who may wish to welcome me back, to do so in as peaceful an atmosphere as that which prevailed during the landmark event of June 12, 1993, when the fairest and most peaceful election in the history of Nigeria took place, and was so hailed both nationally and internationally," Abiola wrote.

Officials in Abiola's left-leaning Social Democratic Party (SDP) told the press they expected his plane to land at Lagos airport at 2:00 P.M. (1300 GMT) on Friday. The party has formed a committee to mobilise his supporters across the country and arrange a welcome for him at the airport. [passage omitted]

"Nigerians acted together as people of the same nation and gave an overwhelming mandate to the Abiola-Kingibe ticket, which cuts across all ethnic and religious barriers," Abiola's letter said. Baba Gana Kingibe was the presidential candidate's running mate. "The Nigeria we agreed to build in the spirit of June 12, 1993, must be

a tolerant and totally accommodating nation in which all citizens can live and work together wherever they choose in our great country," the letter said. [passage omitted]

Police Confirm Return Date

AB2309214093 Lagos NTA Television Network in English 2000 GMT 23 Sep 93

[Text] The police today confirmed that Chief Moshood Abiola is expected back in Nigeria tomorrow. The police deputy, Deputy Inspector General in Charge of Operations Mr. Nubu Aliyu, who confirmed Chief Abiola's scheduled arrival, said the police have held a series of meetings with the committee arranging his return and that the necessary arrangements to ensure his personal safety have been made. According to Mr. Aliyu, the Nigeria police is responsible for his personal safety, like that of every other Nigerian. He said Chief Abiola is coming in peace and appealed to everyone not to let his homecoming disrupt the peace.

[Begin Aliyu recording] Only a restricted number of his supporters and (?admirers) will be allowed to the airport or his residence. This arrangement is in the best interest of all. Unauthorized processions will not be allowed or tolerated. The provisions of the Public Order Act will have to be observed by all. Nothing should be done to disrupt law and order or else the police are prepared to protect and defend law-abiding citizens. You are, therefore, to join hands with the police to ensure a hitch-free reception for Chief M.K.O. Abiola. [end recording]

'Unconfirmed Reports' of Return

AB2409105093 Lagos Voice of Nigeria in English 1030 GMT 24 Sep 93

[Text] The presidential candidate of the Social Democratic Party [SDP] in the annulled June election in Nigeria, Chief M.K.O. Abiola, who is being expected back home today, is reported to have returned. Although Chief Abiola was widely expected to fly in this afternoon, unconfirmed reports say he returned in the early hours of morning. Chief Abiola had, in a statement yesterday in London, said there was need for peace and national unity in the country. He said he was returning in peace and appealed to all who wished to welcome him to do so in a peaceful and orderly manner.

Chief Abiola left Nigeria early last month in the heat of the political crisis arising from the annulment of the presidential election to canvas for international support for the release of the election results.

Shonekan Briefs Foreign Envoys on Interim Government

'Every' Citizen Eligible for Elections

AB2309161593 Lagos Radio Nigeria Network in English 1500 GMT 23 Sep 93

[Text] Every eligible Nigerian is free to run for the forthcoming local government and presidential elections. The

head of state, Chief Ernest Shonekan, made this known today in Abuja when he briefed members of the diplomatic corps on the program of the interim national government. Chief Shonekan explained that the new gesture was in keeping with the spirit of reconciliation, which the interim government was determined to pursue.

He told the diplomats that from his wide consultations, it was clear that the generality of Nigerians accepted the principle of dialogue as the best means of resolving the problems of the country. The head of state, therefore, appealed to every citizen, including those who were outside the country, to return and join in the national dialogue.

Chief Shonekan emphasized that the life and liberty of every Nigerian was guaranteed under the policy of the interim government. He cited the release of human rights activists detained under the previous military regime as an indication of his administration's liberal policy.

Interim Government Not 'Ploy'

AB2409110593 Lagos Radio Nigeria Network in English 0600 GMT 24 Sep 93

[Excerpt] The head of state has called for international understanding and assistance to enable Nigeria to complete the democratization process. Chief Shonekan said the nation also required the economic assistance of the international community since democracy and economic development go hand in hand. The head of state, who was addressing foreign diplomats in Abuja, reaffirmed Nigeria's desire to remain a useful and respectable member of the international community. He called on Nigeria's foreign friends to support the interim national government [ING] as the only peaceful option that ensured the exit of the military on the target date of August 27. Chief Shonekan maintained that the interim government was neither a military government nor a ploy to extend military rule:

[Begin Shonekan recording] The present administration may not be the full-blown elected democratic government that we absolutely want (?to see). But it has come to be accepted, now that military rule is over in Nigeria. Generally, (?I used to have a bit of problems on that side,) especially in order to correct certain [words indistinct] that the ING is a plan to extend military rule. Ours is not a military-led government, and I would like to (?repeat) that ours is not a military-led government, since I happen in any case to be the civilian presiding over this government. Moreover, the government is composed of civilian personalities, many of whom share with me a strong commitment to a free market economy. Anyone knows, and I think each and everyone of you here knows that the free enterprise system thrives best under a truly democratic process. [end recording]

He argued that the country's foreign friends should show understanding of the current political situation because

Nigeria's democratization experiment began long before it became the vogue all over the world. [passage omitted]

Urges Support, Understanding

AB2409110093 Lagos Radio Nigeria Network in English 0600 GMT 24 Sep 93

[Text] The head of state, Chief Ernest Shonekan, has briefed the diplomatic corps as part of the campaign for international support and understanding for the interim national government [ING]. State House correspondent Reginald Okwoche reports that at the well-attended briefing in Abuja, Chief Shonekan assured foreign envoys that his administration was determined to complete the democratization process begun by the previous military government:

[Okwoche] The meeting was the first between the diplomatic corps and Chief Shonekan since he assumed the leadership of the ING. The head of state told the envoys that Nigeria took no offense over the concern shown by her foreign friends on the return to full diplomatic governance. He said that since the world had become a global village it was risky for any nation to ignore the events happening in the other country. Chief Shonekan, however, argued that Nigeria's foreign friends should show understanding and support for the interim government because it was the most peaceful action that saw the end of the military rule in Nigeria. He said that it was therefore expected that the true friends of Nigeria would assist the interim government to ensure the realization of full democracy with the election and installation of a democratically elected president.

The head of state also requested the international community to invest in the economy of Nigeria, since economic development was complementary to democracy.

[Begin Shonekan recording] Your Excellencies, those who argue that there is a close connection between democracy and economic development have logic on their side. If people cannot (?secure human) living standards, all talk of democracy (?will largely sound) illogical and unreal to them. Thus, the ING is determined to act effectively to arrest further deterioration of the national economy, not only because there is the need to improve the general welfare of the citizenry, but also to stave off the potential threat of [words indistinct] to the survival of democracy. It is appropriate at this juncture to [words indistinct] to come and invest in Nigeria's future economic [words indistinct] in enjoying democracy in the country. [end recording]

Chief Shonekan stated that the interim government has always taken measures which should inspire confidence in the international community. One of such measures was the release of human rights activists.

The dean of the diplomatic corps and ambassador of the state of Palestine, Mr. (Shamir Ryadh), assured the head of state that the envoys would send accurate reports on the political program of the interim administration to their respective home governments.

Lagos State Executive Council Dissolved

AB2309132093 Lagos Radio Nigeria Network in English 0600 GMT 23 Sep 93

[Text] The Lagos State Executive Council has been dissolved. All commissioners, special advisers, and the secretary to the government have been relieved of their posts. Governor Michael Otedola said the decision became necessary because of the poor performance of the Executive Council. All the commissioners and special advisers are to hand over to the director general in their offices.

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27 SEPT 1993

